

DEATH OF KING GEORGE VI

PEACEFULLY IN SLEEP AT SANDRINGHAM

LAST WALK IN GROUNDS ON PREVIOUS EVENING

NEW QUEEN FLYING HOME: IN LONDON TO-DAY

PROCLAMATION TO-MORROW: PRIME MINISTER ON RADIO TO-NIGHT

HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE VI DIED IN HIS SLEEP AT SANDRINGHAM HOUSE IN THE EARLY HOURS OF YESTERDAY MORNING. A SERVANT FOUND HIM DEAD IN BED AT 7.30 A.M. AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM SANDRINGHAM, REPEATED IN A SPECIAL ISSUE OF THE LONDON GAZETTE LAST NIGHT, SAID:

The King, who retired last night in his usual health, passed peacefully away in his sleep early this morning.

Princess Elizabeth, who immediately became Queen, was informed of her father's death while she was at the Royal hunting lodge near Nyeri in Kenya. A thunderstorm delayed for two hours the departure of the plane which is to bring her to London, where she is expected at 4.30 p.m. to-day.

The Accession Council, which consists of members of the Privy Council summoned with others, "notables of the Realm" such as the Lord Mayor of London, to act on the demise of the Crown, met at 5 p.m. yesterday to decide on the accession proclamation. This will be read at 11 a.m. to-morrow at St. James's Palace, at Temple Bar and on the steps of the Royal Exchange in the City.

The Queen, who is 25, is expected to take the Royal oath before a second meeting of the Council to-day. She was proclaimed Queen Elizabeth II of Canada in Ottawa yesterday. Prince Charles automatically becomes Duke of Cornwall.

Mr. Churchill will broadcast on all B.B.C. wavelengths at 9 o'clock to-night for 15 minutes.

OUT SHOOTING ON PREVIOUS DAY

The King, who was 56 and in the 16th year of his reign, was born at Sandringham. During what proved to be his last stay there he was out shooting on Tuesday morning and afternoon, and appeared to be in good health. In the evening he walked in the grounds.

The Queen-Mother and Princess Margaret accompanied him when he went to Sandringham last Friday. On the previous day he had gone to London Airport, to see his elder daughter and the Duke of Edinburgh leave for Nairobi.

Queen Mary was informed at Marlborough House of her son's death. The Duke of Gloucester, who was at his home at Barnwell Manor, Northants, went to Sandringham on hearing the news. The Princess Royal was told at St. James's Palace. The Duchess of Kent returned from Germany last night and the Duke of Windsor leaves New York in the Queen Mary to-day.

The Prime Minister and Sir David Maxwell Fyfe, Home Secretary, were given the news by telephone. A Cabinet meeting was held. The House of Commons and the House of Lords met formally for two minutes and adjourned until after the Accession Council, when M.P.s and Peers began to take the Oath of Allegiance to the new monarch. The two Chambers are expected to meet on Monday for addresses of condolence and then adjourn until Feb. 19.

Subject to the wishes of the new Queen the body of King George will lie in state in Westminster Hall from Monday until the funeral, the date for which has not yet been fixed. Carpenters at Sandringham finished making the coffin of oak from the estate last night.

CINEMAS AND THEATRES CLOSED

The effect of the news from Sandringham was felt immediately throughout the nation. All cinemas were closed and the Lord Chamberlain directed that theatres should be shut for the day and also on the day of the funeral of the King. B.B.C. programmes were cancelled except for news bulletins. There will be a restricted programme from to-day until after the funeral. The Stock Exchange and Lloyd's closed, courts adjourned and a number of public dinners and other functions were postponed. Flags in every town were at half-mast.

All sport stopped except for the four Football Association Cup-ties. Saturday's Rugby Union International between England and Ireland at Twickenham has been postponed. Football League and Rugby League fixtures will be played as arranged. National Hunt racing was suspended.

As soon as the news became known a crowd began to gather outside Buckingham Palace, and was there until late at night. Ambassadors were calling throughout the day to sign the visitors' book as an official expression of their sorrow, and messages of sympathy flowed in from every quarter.

Mr. Churchill issued a statement from 10, Downing Street last night asking that there should be no public gathering at London Airport when the Queen arrives from Kenya.



A recent portrait of his Majesty King George VI.

LYING-IN-STATE ON MONDAY

PARLIAMENT TO SEND CONDOLENCES

FRONT-PAGE PHOTOGRAPH
The body of King George VI will lie in state in Westminster Hall from Monday until the funeral, the date for which has not yet been fixed. Carpenters at Sandringham finished making the coffin of oak from the estate last night.

GOVERNMENT CARRY ON

The Government and the Government of the Commonwealth continued to carry on as usual. The Prime Minister, Mr. Churchill, issued a statement from 10, Downing Street last night asking that there should be no public gathering at London Airport when the Queen arrives from Kenya.

RETURN OF QUEEN: PRIME MINISTER'S PLEA

The Prime Minister, Mr. Churchill, issued a statement from 10, Downing Street last night asking that there should be no public gathering at London Airport when the Queen arrives from Kenya.

LATE NEWS

Invitation from Mr. Mossadegh. The Prime Minister, Mr. Churchill, issued a statement from 10, Downing Street last night asking that there should be no public gathering at London Airport when the Queen arrives from Kenya.

7.30 a.m. DISCOVERY BY SANDRINGHAM SERVANT

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SANDRINGHAM, Wednesday
The King was found dead in his bed at Sandringham House at 7.30 a.m. yesterday. A servant found him dead in bed at 7.30 a.m. yesterday.

MEDICAL VIEWS ON CAUSE OF DEATH

THE CAUSE OF THE KING'S DEATH is still a matter of speculation. Medical experts are expected to examine the body after the funeral.

ROYAL FAMILY CANCEL PLANS

The Royal Family has cancelled all plans for the day of the funeral. The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh are expected to arrive in London to-day.

DUCHESS FLIES HOME

The Duchess of Kent has flown home to Germany. The Duchess of Kent returned from Germany last night and the Duke of Windsor leaves New York in the Queen Mary to-day.

BISHOP OF NORWICH

The Bishop of Norwich has announced that he will officiate at the funeral of King George VI. The Bishop of Norwich has announced that he will officiate at the funeral of King George VI.

TO-DAY'S WEATHER

Forecast for to-day: Partly cloudy with light rain. Temperature: 40-50. Wind: Light breeze.

ROYAL PLANE OVER SAHARA AT 3 a.m.

UGANDA DEPARTURE HELD UP BY STORM

The Royal Air Force plane carrying the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh was delayed by a storm in the Sahara Desert. The plane is expected to arrive in London to-day.

PROCLAMATION AS QUEEN ELIZABETH II

The proclamation of Queen Elizabeth II was read in Ottawa yesterday. The Queen is expected to arrive in London to-day.

NEWS BROKEN BY DUKE

The news of the King's death was first broken by the Duke of Edinburgh. The Duke of Edinburgh is expected to arrive in London to-day.

QUEEN'S FORTITUDE

The Queen's fortitude in the face of her father's death is a subject of admiration. The Queen is expected to arrive in London to-day.

FUNERAL PARTY A BEARER PARTY

The funeral of King George VI will be a state occasion. The funeral is expected to take place in Westminster Abbey.

TO-DAY'S SUPPLEMENT

The to-day's supplement contains news of the funeral of King George VI. The supplement is expected to be published to-day.

ROYAL PLANE OVER SAHARA AT 3 a.m.

The Royal Air Force plane carrying the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh was delayed by a storm in the Sahara Desert. The plane is expected to arrive in London to-day.

PROCLAMATION AS QUEEN ELIZABETH II

The proclamation of Queen Elizabeth II was read in Ottawa yesterday. The Queen is expected to arrive in London to-day.

NEWS BROKEN BY DUKE

The news of the King's death was first broken by the Duke of Edinburgh. The Duke of Edinburgh is expected to arrive in London to-day.

QUEEN'S FORTITUDE

The Queen's fortitude in the face of her father's death is a subject of admiration. The Queen is expected to arrive in London to-day.

FUNERAL PARTY A BEARER PARTY

The funeral of King George VI will be a state occasion. The funeral is expected to take place in Westminster Abbey.

TO-DAY'S SUPPLEMENT

The to-day's supplement contains news of the funeral of King George VI. The supplement is expected to be published to-day.

ROYAL PLANE OVER SAHARA AT 3 a.m.

The Royal Air Force plane carrying the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh was delayed by a storm in the Sahara Desert. The plane is expected to arrive in London to-day.

PROCLAMATION AS QUEEN ELIZABETH II

The proclamation of Queen Elizabeth II was read in Ottawa yesterday. The Queen is expected to arrive in London to-day.